

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN AF-18

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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E. O. 11652: ADS, DECON 4/20/73

TAGS: PFOR, SU

SUBJ: SECRETARY' S FOREIGN POLICY REPORT

1. TEXT OF SECTION ON SUDAN IN SECRETARY' S 1972 FOREIGN POLICY REPORT SCHEDULED FOR RELEASE APRIL 19 FOLLOWS FOR POST INFORMATION:

2. QUOTE U. S. RELATIONS WITH PARTICULAR NORTH AFRICAN STATES WERE STRENGTHENED LAST YEAR. FORMAL DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH SUDAN WERE RESTORED IN JULY. BEFORE THAT EVENT, THE UNITED STATES HAD RESPONDED TO SUDANESE REQUESTS FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT. THE NEED FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE BECAME URGENT AFTER AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED IN FEBRUARY 1972 TO END THE LONG, COSTLY CIVIL WAR IN SOUTHERN SUDAN.

3. COMMERCIAL AS WELL AS CULTURAL RELATIONS HAVE EXPANDED BETWEEN SUDAN AND THE UNITED STATES. THE VOLUME OF TRADE HAS INCREASED, AND SUDAN IS ACTIVELY SEEKING PRIVATE INVESTMENT TO STIMULATE ECONOMIC GROWTH. THE SUDANESE GOVERNMENT IS NEGOTIATING WITH THE WORLD BANK, A. I. D., AND OTHER DONORS TO COVER THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE COSTS OF THE RAHAD PROJECT, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE 300,000 ACRES OF NEW IRRIGATED

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FARMLAND. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS PERSIST,
PARTICULARLY ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS, BUT WE ARE CONVINCED

THEY NEED NOT INHIBIT CLOSER RELATIONS IN THE MANY AREAS IN
WHICH OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE COMMON INTERESTS. UNQUOTE.
ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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